

1           1. In Cambodia, the government has made little progress  
2           in its efforts to reopen the Mekong River, and the chances  
3           are slim that it will succeed in time for the next resupply  
4           convoy tentatively scheduled for early March. Khmer Communist  
5           forces are increasing pressure in the countryside and against  
6           the capital's southwestern defenses guarding the approaches  
7           to Pochentong. A general war weariness and weakening of will  
8           is evident within the FANK forces, and we believe the military  
9           situation will continue to deteriorate. In this situation,  
10          it is not possible to predict the course of events over the  
11          next few weeks. There is a considerable danger that the  
12          Communists will be able to cripple Pochentong, or that  
13          a key FANK unit will collapse or the  
14          Lon Nol government itself will be overthrown. Any of these  
15          eventualities could bring the war to a sudden end. On the  
16          other hand, timely U.S. supplemental aid might provide a  
17          psychological boost to the government that would enable it  
            to continue fighting.